



# TECHNOLOGY AREA

Last Updated: 03/07/05

DEFINITION				
<i>Name</i>	Usability			
<i>Description</i>	<p><b>Usability</b> is a <b>quality attribute</b> that assesses how easy user interfaces are to use. The word "<b>usability</b>" also refers to methods for improving ease-of-use during the design process.</p> <p><b>Usability</b> has five quality components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Learnability:</b> How easy is it for users to accomplish basic tasks the first time they encounter the design?</li> <li>• <b>Efficiency:</b> Once users have learned the design, how quickly can they perform tasks?</li> <li>• <b>Memorability:</b> When users return to the design after a period of not using it, how easily can they reestablish proficiency?</li> <li>• <b>Errors:</b> How many errors do users make, how severe are these errors, and how easily can they recover from the errors?</li> <li>• <b>Satisfaction:</b> How pleasant is it to use the design?</li> </ul>			
<i>Rationale</i>	A Web site that is difficult to use will never be used to its full advantage. By using certain design and testing techniques, combined with basic guidelines and "best practices," designers and content managers can help increase their Web pages' usability and thus improve the user's experience while visiting those pages.			
<i>Benefits</i>	Usable Web pages provide information and services to the greatest number of people possible.			
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTURE LEVELS				
<i>Specify the Domain Name</i>	Interface			
<i>Specify the Discipline Name</i>	Branding Identity			
KEYWORDS				
<i>List Keywords</i>	Usability; user-friendly			
ASSOCIATED COMPLIANCE COMPONENTS				
<i>List the Compliance Component Names</i>				
ASSOCIATED PRODUCT COMPONENTS				
<i>List the Product Component Names</i>				
CURRENT STATUS				
<i>Provide the Current Status</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Under Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
AUDIT TRAIL				
<i>Creation Date</i>	2/25/05	<i>Date Approved / Rejected</i>		

<i>Reason for Rejection</i>			
<i>Last Date Reviewed</i>		<i>Last Date Updated</i>	
<i>Reason for Update</i>			